



May 2010

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PAID & VOLUNTEER STAFF OF RAILTOWN 1897 STATE HISTORIC PARK

Important Dates

May 8th

Fire Patrol Training
9 AM to 4PM
(Same presentation
as March 27th).

May 8th

National Train Day

Ladies Luncheon

First Thursday of
Every month. May
6th at Papa's New
Roost. At Noon.

Birthdays in May

Craig Konklin
Dan Maher

May 9

Mother's Day. Moms
Ride free!

June 20

Father's Day. Fa-
ther's ride free !

July 2, 3 & 4

Premiere Event: The
Return of the #3 !
Mark the date !

July 24

Mark Twain visits us
With stories and
tales, first on the pic-
nic grounds, then
ride the train at 5pm.
Fiddler Dave Rain-
water will also per-
form

A Star is Reborn- The Return of Sierra No. 3

July 3 and 4, 2010 9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

The famous "movie star" locomotive returns fully refurbished and ready for her close-up! *Steam Train Rides * Toe-tapping Music * Costumed Characters * Great Food and Family Fun* Free Admission*

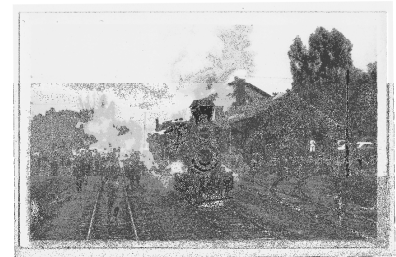
Sidewinder Express-#2 Shay Train Rides \$13 Adult, \$6 Youth (2-17 years)

Sierra No. 3- Steam Train Rides \$30 Adult, \$15 Youth (2-17 years)

Children under 2 years ride free!

Advance tickets to ride Sierra No. 3 sell online, starting June 4, 2010

Volunteers and staff who have worked on the #3, or will be working that weekend, will receive an invitation to the appreciation ride and BBQ on Friday, July 2nd. Be sure to schedule your volunteer time now. We need everyone!



School Days in May

Every Wednesday in the month of May, flocks of butterflies and bees descend upon Railtown in the form of excited, smiling faces of elementary school children for a lesson in the *Power of Steam Locomotion* as it relates to the history of our state and country.

The majority of the students we see are fourth graders, since that is the grade level in which California history is studied. Some of these children will experience a train ride for the first time. And not just any train – because this year for the first time we will be running our steam train on Wednesdays. We take groups of 25 or so students on a guided tour through the historic roundhouse where we have docents stationed at various locations to provide demonstrations of steam, the forge, Hollywood Land, the belt-driven machine shop, and the turntable. The tour lasts approximately 40 minutes and is geared to the age level of the group.

The apex of the day occurs when the students climb aboard our vintage rail-cars and depart on a voyage into the past, propelled down the ribbons of steel by our mighty little Shay #2 and the Power of Steam. Our hope as they depart the park at the end of the day, is that we have instilled in them the awe and love of steam locomotion that we all feel, with the goal of continuing the tradition of Railtown at least another 100 years into the future.



In Memoriam- Tony "Pop" LaNotte"

August 4, 1925– April 6, 2010

Tony worked as a farm manager until he was 75 years old. His son, Anthony, a member of the train crew who often worked with his days, says that his job never allowed him to have a hobby, but as soon as he visited Railtown he knew he had found his first one, and a second home. He loved having fun, joking, and giving hugs to his new "family".

Tony was a member of the Fire Patrol, and always had a big smile that was infectious. A Railtown volunteer for 10 years, Tony was a valuable member of the team, and will be greatly missed.

June 2 Field Trip To The Western Railway Museum

Don't forget to sign up for our field trip to the Western Railway Museum near Rio Vista, Wednesday, June 2nd. For those of us in Tuolumne County, we will meet at the Depot Store parking lot at 8am and car pool, leaving no later than 8:30am, to arrive at the museum by 10:30am. Some of you in the valley, of course can meet us there, no later than 10:30am. Andy Alkema one of our volunteers, is also a volunteer there, and will lead us on a tour viewing their rolling stock, library, archives and restoration shops. For steam only fans, they do have one Western Pacific Steam Engine (circa 1892?). We will be treated to an excursion ride on a vintage 'interurban' street car. We expect to arrive back at Railtown by 5pm. Bring a bag lunch !

Thank You's

Larry Miller for re-upholstering chairs in the 2901, Greg Peterson for installing batteries in 613, John Stier for fixing the popcorn machine, Charlene McAndrews cleaning kitchen car on Mondays, Gene Arnold for your help with the lift, to David Deutsch and his crew of volunteers working hard to get the cars ready for our big weekend, Laverne Coon for keeping everything in order, Richard Bradley for refinishing the depot table and a big last minute thank you to Judy Nordstrom for cooking some awesome Chile Verde for our Tuesday lunch May 4th!

Announcing the 1st Annual 'Singing Rails' Railroad Music Festival

Our very first Railroad music festival will be held Saturday, August 21st on our picnic grounds. Scheduled to perform will be The Black Irish Band, Cactus Bob & Prairie Flower and Lori Brandon & Chris Miller. Each act will perform songs from the railroad tradition and folklore. The concert will start at 4:30 and admission is \$12 to the public and free for volunteers and family. Bring your lawn chairs, coolers and blankets and enjoy!

Name Tags

We have been issuing temporary name tags, but are planning to order permanent name tags soon. If you are a maintenance or engine crew volunteer, you do not need one. If you are working as a volunteer in the public eye, i.e. Tour Guide, Car Host, Greeter, Ticket Agent, and you need one, please call or email Dave Rainwater in the office. 209-984-4408.



THE RAILTOWN TURNTABLE



Volunteer of the Month-- Tony Stroud

"I'm never leaving, never going back to the city!" Tony Stroud echoes the sentiments of most of us who now call Tuolumne County our home. Tony is this month's honoree for Volunteer of The Month. After signing up in January, he has proved to be invaluable, working with our #3 restoration crew. Since January, he has often worked 3 or 4 days a week. *"He's like an angel that dropped from the sky, just when we needed him"*, says Kim Baker.

From Fremont, in the Bay Area, he finished high school in 1980. He spent 6 years in the Navy, where he learned his trade as a machinery repairman. He loves Railtown and finds working on the trains and old equipment fascinating. *"I love seeing how the old timers made things with their old industrial techniques and equipment"*. One of his main hobbies is gold prospecting. He is a member of the Gold Prospectors Association of America and spends a lot of time searching for gold with his adopted dog 'CJ' a Queensland Heeler. Tony can now add his name along with our crew working on the historical #3 Rogers locomotive restoration project.





RAILTOWN 1897
State Historic Park

PO Box 1250

Jamestown, CA 95327

Return Service Requested

TO:



Docent Hotline- (209)-984-4408

Docent Site- <http://Railtown.team.parks.ca.gov/volunteers/default.aspx>

Railtown Blog- www.railtown1897.wordpress.com



Railtown Paid and Volunteer Staff Contact Information

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Newsletter Available in Alternative Format on Request